



Reflections

VOLUME 27

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ISSUE 20

Pride Parade – A Show of Solidarity

The month of June is quickly coming upon us. In what is currently called the United States of America, June is the month we have set aside to commemorate beloved queer and trans elders and activists and to celebrate queer and trans life. Queer and Trans liberations popular history generally begin at a little bar called Stonewall. A year after the “riot” parades began to be held to commemorate the events at Stonewall and now are celebrated across the globe.

While the events of that day in 1969 are as blurry and obtuse as queer and trans identities themselves, there resonates similarities with the current political and social climate we live in now. At Stonewall, we can receive the culmination of a long history of police brutality towards people who are marginal/ized, an environment with advances in communication where the violence against queer and trans folx was more transmissible, and the irritability of a long hot summer. (Folx with an x is a way of including people who are often submerged into folks, the people who have been marginalised or are minorities.)

In 1959 police walked into a doughnut shop and started harassing the trans women of colour and gay men which turned into a “riot” when the women protested their arrest. Then seven years later at another coffee shop, because they were not allowed in the gay bars, women would gather after a long night of work to be community and family to one another. For years the police had been called when workers did not want to serve their kind. This time the attempt to arrest the women was resisted by splashing coffee on the officers and a “riot.” These and many more stories led to Stonewall, another “riot” this time led by a black butch and black trans woman.

The Pride March, for over 50 years, has become an event in which people resist the impulses of dominating cultures to silence, closet and erase queer people and trans folx. For queer, trans, and trans queer Christians and the folx who live in solidarity with their siblings in Christ, the Pride March is an event to resist the urges of the Christian community to conform to this dominating culture. For Christian churches, Pride is also an event in which the community can practice humility and repentance for the harms, trauma, and violence it has participated in, while also listening and learning from our siblings to repair and reform our church. For me, a white trans queer woman who is a Christian, finding a Christian community where I can be all of my many identities has been vital for my life. I wish that our church can boldly and loudly show up for other folx who long to be all of themselves.

I would like to encourage Redeemer to march on **Saturday, June 17** in solidarity with the queer and trans communities we live with, alongside, and in. According to the Human Rights Campaign, (at the time of writing and given the

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OUR CONGREGATION

Ministers - All who gather here in the name of Jesus

Pastor - Rev. David Shull

Office Manager - Becky Trover

Office Assistant - Diane Brobeck

Custodian - Marshall Edgington

Organist/Senior Choir Director - Kathy Rapp

Pianist/Chime Choir Director - Karen Kent

Reflections Editor - Judith Bird

2023

CHURCH COUNCIL

President - Michele Disbro

Vice President - Krista Skipper

Finance Officer - Nathan Ott

Secretary - Sue Watson

Worship - Jennifer Young

Education - Katie Jacobs

Outreach - Diane Brobeck

Member Support - Elyce Herring

Property - Sue Yehling

Stewardship - Laura Warren

APPOINTMENTS

Treasurer - Julianne Johnson

MUTUAL MINISTRY TEAM

Margie Farnham Marques Highland

Emlyn Ott

SPECIAL FUNDS TEAM

Dave Engel, Chair

Ashley Bird

Julie Boreman

Nathan Ott

Wendy Stoica

Terry Warren

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent - Emily Ott

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

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The Redeemer Community

Thrive! Pledge Sunday Set for May 21

This coming week is Redeemer's pledge Sunday to support the new and continuing ways that the Southern Ohio Synod is supporting our congregations. This campaign sees a church that equips leaders, both rostered ministers and lay people. It sees the church with stories to share about how God's love is alive and meets people where they are. It sees a growing church not bound by the walls of its buildings.

Thrive has already benefitted Redeemer in very tangible ways. The livestream ministry resulted from the synod's "Out-Of-the-Box" teams consultation and connection to others in the synod who helped plan and implement Redeemer's livestreaming.

Redeemer committed to a Thrive campaign in 2020 but are picking it up now, post-pandemic.

This Sunday each household will be asked to consider a pledge to the Thrive campaign. The pledge is payable over a three-year period. Council has set a goal of \$20,000, and leadership has already pledged at least \$5,500 of that.

To support Thrive!, make contributions to Redeemer with a designation to Thrive! Redeemer will establish a separate category through Tithley for those who want to use that platform.

Please prayerfully consider supporting these efforts.

Redeemer's *Thrive!* Team: **Margie Frazier, Wendy Stoica, Julianne Johnson, Dave Shull**

Volunteers, Boxes Needed for May 18 Food Giveaway

Thursday, May 18 is Redeemer's next food giveaway and volunteers and boxes are needed!

Kathy Zwanziger said that she has been told Redeemer may be receiving a reduction in the amount of produce the church will receive.

"As MOFC utilizes more cost-effective bulk produce items, we will likely be receiving 50-pound bags as opposed to consumer-sized bags – meaning we will probably have to sort and bag more items. It seems that we may have fewer boxes available for use from what we receive, so if you happen to have any boxes at home that you need to get rid of, that would be helpful. The Food Bank will also try to add yogurt, eggs, and milk whenever possible.

"As always, we appreciate all the volunteers -- bring your friends for the camaraderie while we work!

This month's additional special items are skin care products such as lotions and sunscreen. These are items not available through the regular giveaway or with food stamps.

Kathy also said she received a "Newsfeed" from the Mid-Ohio Food Collective (MOFC) which stated, "Last year, we saw a 33 percent increase in overall demand for our services [in this area] ... much higher than we saw during the peak of the pandemic." The giveaways help many people access food they otherwise may not have.

Fans, Fans, and More Fans!

Sister Act recently discussed all the ways that Redeemer currently serves as a refuge, and how the congregation might imagine new ways to be a refuge in the future.

Long story short (and you'll hear more of that discussion in the future!) Sister Act members thought about how the community collects fans each summer for people without air conditioning and how many of those current efforts reach people who are homebound.

Sister Act would like to provide fans in July at Redeemer's LSS/MidOhio Food Giveaway, to households that may need them. So, to that end, Sister Act is collecting box fans from now until **Thursday, July 20** when they will be distributed at the July food giveaway. Fans, fans, and more fans!

Narthex Changing Up for Pentecost

The Narthex Art team is changing the theme for the Pentecost season to “Love in Any Language.” Members are asked to check around their homes for pieces of art that might fit this theme and consider loaning it to the church for a few weeks. The artwork can be brought in starting **Sunday, May 21**. There is a song by Sandi Patty with this same title and here are the lyrics to the chorus:

Love in any language
Straight from the heart
Pulls us all together
Never apart
And once we learn to speak it
All the world will hear
Love in any language
Fluently spoken here.

It's Getting to Be That Time

Donations of Bottled Water Sought for Basketball Camp

With Redeemer's summer basketball camp set to kick off on **Monday, June 12**, it's not too early for folks to donate a case of bottled water. One thing that's certain: there will be hot days out there on the basketball courts.

Feel free to buy a case of **8-ounce** water bottles and put it in the donation room off the Narthex. The young people go through a lot of water!! The camp runs through **Thursday, July 20**. Thank you!

Guest Preacher, Teacher on Tap for May 21

On **Sunday, May 21**, Redeemer welcomes member, **Rev. Emlyn Ott** as guest preacher. She will also lead the Adult Education Class following worship. It begins about 11:15 a.m. in Room 2.

She fills in while **Pastor Dave** is finishing a continuing education class on preaching sponsored by Luther Seminary in Minneapolis.

The Zoom link for the adult ed class is

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85416300860?pwd=R0xOK2U2Rm4rTUVaaI9ENIZK0XJSUT09>.

Meeting ID: 854 1630 0860; Passcode: 312918. Phone only: 1 312 626 6799.

June Book Group to Discuss *When Breath Becomes Air*

On **Wednesday evening, June 2**, Redeemer's book group invites folks to gather in-person or by Zoom to discuss *When Breath Becomes Air* by **Paul Kalanithi**.

It is the memoir of a writer and neurosurgeon who at age 36, just when he was finishing 10 years of medical training, was diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer. With his whole future in front of him, a wife and a baby, he now nurtures new life. The novelist **Ann Patchett** says, “This is one of a handful of books I consider to be a universal donor – I would recommend it to anyone, everyone.”

Atul Gawande, the author of *Being Mortal*, the book discussed in July 2021, says, Dr. Kalanithi's memoir is “proof that the dying are the ones who have the most to teach us about life.” There are a number of copies in the public library. “Join us on June 2!”

Here's the Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86581504887?pwd=ZkFSV2tKM2xEd3dyK1RvSURJYIFuZz09>; Meeting ID: 865 8150 4887; Passcode: 274918. Or join the group via call to 312 626 6799.

Sister Act to Meet May 24

Sister Act will next meet on **Wednesday, May 24** at 6:30 p.m. here at Redeemer to *Imagine ... through Music*. The group will explore the connection between music and imagination and sample how some composers, song/hymn writers, arrangers, and performers have used their imaginations to create music. **Kelley Frank** will be leading the discussion.

“Do you have a favorite song or hymn that inspires you? Share it during our time together!”

The meeting is also on Zoom at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81289924578?pwd=NmEzOHlidGM0cFkrTUxzM2dmYUJKdz09;>

Meeting ID: 812 8992 4578; Passcode: 030225. It can also be accessed via phone: to find your local number go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81289924578?pwd=NmEzOHlidGM0cFkrTUxzM2dmYUJKdz09;>

Noisy Offering Now Goes to Kindway

During December, the Adult Sunday Education class welcomed people from groups that are out bringing God to a group of people or a neighborhood. One of the groups was Kindway.

Kindway is a God-led prison ministry devoted to investing in the lives of those who've been affected by incarceration. According to Kindway, it has developed “an impressive reputation within Central Ohio prisons and the Columbus community for its EMBARK reentry programming.” EMBARK helps individuals build their independence while growing their faith to become active and engaged Christians in the Columbus community. After a thorough selection and orientation process, individuals begin the EMBARK program during their incarceration within a year of release to ensure enough time for intensive personal reflection.

During this time, individuals also participate in Equip programming including trauma recovery, faith-based reentry curriculum and vocational training.

One of the group members who came in December was a young woman who is thriving due to this program. Redeemer's support will help with program cost, rent, setting up housing and many more costs that are incurred as people leave a jailed life and reenter society.

Tuesday Bible Study Turns to Ecclesiastes on May 23

Beginning **May 23**, the Tuesday Bible study will begin an examination of the book of Ecclesiastes. It runs from 1 to 2:30 p.m. and is both in-person and on Zoom.

To join the Zoom meeting, go to the Zoom app and then enter the following information: Meeting ID: 898 1666 2484; Passcode: 072258. To participate via phone, call 646 876 9923. For those who don't have the Zoom app, they can join the meeting by copying and pasting the following web address in your browser: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89816662484?pwd=UnpVZHV3M2ZTSW14K1R1VnRySXliQT09>

Pride Parade *cont'd from p 1*

current state of affairs this number could be higher), there are currently 540 bills stripping queer people of their dignity in state legislatures right now, along with 220 bills attempting the erasure of trans folk, and 45 of these bills have passed.

In the last month black men have been removed from office, trans women have been removed from statehouse floors, and gay men have been silenced speaking on behalf of the cancelled trans folk in his state.

For those who attend Redeemer and are queer or trans, we need to march in resistance to the powers and principalities of this world. And frankly, from my perspective, we need to see our elders. The far too common trope of a miserable short life of a queer person, along with the devastating consequences of HIV/AIDs, can be resisted by receiving the beautiful queer lives of our elders. For those folk who have not been classified as gay, lesbian, bisexual, trans*, queer, and etc. by the state, I would ask you to march for the pride of your siblings, lend your privilege and your presence to resist the demoncracy we read or hear about every day.

Grace,

Naomi Fae Morgan (she/her)

P.S. Here's the link to register for the march. [Register to March!](#) Let **Pastor Dave** know you've registered so we can be sure to get you the information you need about where we're meeting that morning to go together to where we gather before the parade actually starts at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 17.

Important Emails

Dshull@RedeemerLuth.com – use for communicating directly with **Pastor Dave**.

Info@RedeemerLuth.com – use for communicating with the office, *Reflections* newsletter, **Office Manager Becky Trover**, healing prayer requests or for general information.

MemberCare@RedeemerLuth.com – use for communicating with the Member Care team about needs for personal ministry such as in-home communion, a home visit, meals, etc.

FinSec@RedeemerLuth.com – use for stewardship campaigns.

Itgroup@RedeemerLuth.com – use for communicating with Redeemer's IT Team for items related to the website.

Property@RedeemerLuth.com – use to report items that need repair in the church building.

SundaySchool@RedeemerLuth.com – use to offer suggestions for our Sunday School ministry.

Transportation@redeemerluth.com – use to request temporary transportation assistance.

Communications@redeemerluth.com – use to send church related announcements or pictures for sharing on Redeemer's social media sites. Another way is to tag Redeemer in the posts.

Publishing Deadlines for *Reflections*, Sunday Bulletins

For *Reflections*

- **PLEASE SUBMIT PRIOR TO 5 P.M. ON SUNDAYS.**
- Send to info@RedeemerLuth.com and put *Reflections* in subject line.
- Or leave a note in the *Reflections* mailbox at the top of the stairs outside the church office.

For Sunday Bulletins

The deadline for information to be published in Sunday bulletins is the **Wednesday morning** before. That information can be sent to the above email: just put "Bulletin" in the subject line.

Prayers and Personals

Prayers for healing are asked for **Toshi Phillips** who recently had surgery to set an arm he broke in a track meet and for **Matthew Bird** who sustained a concussion in a scooter accident.

+ + +

Pastor Smeck to Provide Pastoral Care while Pastor Dave Attends Conference

Pastor Julianne Smeck of Hope Lutheran Church (734-972-6126) is providing emergency pastoral care coverage for **Pastor Dave** while he attends a preaching conference between Monday morning, May 15-Sunday night, May 21.

Transplant Now Set for May 19; 'Meal Train' Donations Sought

Prayers continue to be asked for **Kathleen Zwanziger** and **Wendy Stoica** as their kidney donation surgeries have been rescheduled for **Friday, May 19**. This means donations for the 'Meal Train' to provide them food once they return home to recuperate are now needed.

Those wishing to participate or for further details can contact **Eileen Day** at 614-907-5821 or via email at eileenday@hotmail.com or **Kathy Mimplitch** at 614-439-7739 or via kathymimplitch@yahoo.com.

Ayers Gets New Job at Seminary

Redeemer member **Shari Ayers** shared that she will become director of contextual and experiential formation at Trinity. She noted, "I look forward to working with students and community partners/congregations, along with faculty and staff."

May Birthdays

17-Mary Benis 17-Ken Jones
19-Al Debelak 20-Jackson Harms
21-Paul Voytas 22-Dave Lippert
26-Kathie Ehrich 29-Barbara Willmann

The Wider Community

Columbus Symphony Chorus Director to Lead Final Concerts

Ronald Jenkins, conductor of the Columbus Symphony Chorus will conclude his 41 years with the group this weekend, **Friday-Saturday, May 19-20**. The concert will hear the chorus along with soloists Gwendolyn Coleman, soprano; Simon Barrad, baritone; and Joanna Frankel, violin, and the Columbus Symphony Orchestra perform Handel's *Coronation Anthem No. 1*; Elgar's *Nimrod*; Vaughn Williams' *Dona Nobis Pacem* and *The Lark Ascending*; Britten's *The Building of the House*; and Paulus' *Of Songs and Singing*, *Birdsong* and *If Music Be the Food of Love*.

Redeemer's Jennifer Young is a member of the chorus.

The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. at the Ohio Theatre with a 6:30 p.m. pre-concert talk discussing the evening's musical selections by Christopher Purdy of WOSU Classical 101.

The following is a link for a 30 percent discount on tickets:

<https://my.cbusarts.com/overview/3671?promo=spring30>; promo code: SPRING30 .

Getting Ready for Worship

Seventh Sunday of Easter, May 21, 2023

Lessons

Readings: Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35; 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

Prayer of the Day

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Ukraine

For those who are fleeing: sanctuary

For those who are staying: safety

For those who are fighting: peace.

For those whose hearts are breaking: comfort

For those who see no future: hope.

Intercessions & Thanksgiving

+ For the people of Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Columbus.

+ For Redeemer community members Katie, Andy, Ruby, Wally, and Kennedi Jacobs.

Each week we remember in our prayers in worship those who cannot be with us and those with special needs and concerns: Bebe McCoy, Robin Stokes, Bonnie Hegreness, Heidi Carman, Mary Kennedy, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Kathie and Nancy Ehrich and their sister Betty Weaver, Jeremy Davis, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and her sister Jan, Brittany Parsons, Mary Bowling's sister Val, John Kennedy's niece Michele Wolfe, Becky Trover's sister Maddie Sutphin, Skye Andree, Laura Warren's brother Walt Hudson, Julie Larson and husband Eli who is receiving cancer treatment in Houston, Phillip Hall and Kirstin Roberts, John Caron, Kathleen Zwanziger, Wendy Stoica, Toshi Phillips, Matt Bird.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	Emlyn Ott
Assisting Minister	Connie Criswell
Cantor	Scott Steiner
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Ashley Bird
Verger	Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica
Hospitality	Karen Rider
Communion Prep	Misato In, Karen Rider
Producers	Tom Mimplitch, Judith Bird

*Flowers are given by Judith and Ashley Bird in memory of Julia Tieman
Noisy Offering will go to Kindway*

Upcoming Week at Redeemer

May 16 – May 22, 2023

Tuesday	1:00 p.m.	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Bible Study
Wednesday	1-3 p.m.	SET-UP Food Giveaway
	3-6 p.m.	LSS/MidOhio Food Giveaway
Sunday	8:45 a.m.	Chime Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 a.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship
	11:15 a.m.	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	11:15 a.m.	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Education

Redeemer's mission: To be followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all

Redeemer's vision: To foster understanding and healing in community

Redeemer's Values: Inclusion, Compassion, Justice